

Message Text

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60

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 AID-05 /040 W

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R 061717Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5617

INFO AMEBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, EEC, IT

SUBJECT: FURTHER EXTENSION BY PROTOCOL OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT
AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 25344

1. AS INSTRUCTED PARA (9) REFTEL, EMBOFF DISCUSSED FURTHER
EXTENSION BY PROTOCOL OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT (IWA)
WITH MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) REP FUXA (DIRECTOR,
EC/GATT AFFAIRS), WHOSE OFFICE HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS
MATTER WITHIN MFA.

2. FUXA SAID MFA HAS ALREADY INSTRUCTED ITS EC MISSION TO
SUPPORT A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF IWA, PROVIDED THAT WITHIN
THE EC THERE IS A "REDIVISION" OF THE FINANCIAL BURDEN
AMONG MEMBER STATES TO REDUCE DIRECT COSTS TO GOI UNDER
FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC). HE EXPLAINED THAT 55 PER-
CENT OF EC SHARE WAS MET FROM EC BUDGET AND 45 PERCENT

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CENT OF EC SHARE WAS MET FROM EC BUDGET AND 45 PERCENT

BY MEMBER STATES; GOI IS SEEKING SMALLER ITALIAN SHARE
WITHIN THE 45 PERCENT AND DOES NOT DESIRE, AT THIS
POINT, TO INCREASE PORTION FINANCED FROM EC BUDGET.

3. FUXA STATED THAT GOI "UNWILLING ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY
FOR BLOCKING RENEWAL" OF IWA. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT
MINISTRY TREASURY HAS STRONG CONCERNS ABOUT COST OF
EC/ITALIAN PARTICIPATION IN FAC. EC/ITALIAN COMMITMENT
EXPRESSED IN TONNAGE, NOT VALUE. SINCE COST TO GI DE-
PENDS UPON PRICE OF GRAIN, TREASURY UNABLE "FIX" ITALIAN
COMMITMENT IN ADVANCE AND IS CONCERNED THAT, IF PRICE OF
GRAIN INCREASES, BUDGETED AMOUNT WOULD BE INSUFFICIENT.
FUXA OBSERVED THAT ITALY ALSO DISADVANTAGED BECAUSE IT
DOES NOT HAVE SURPLUS GRAIN STOCKS FROM WHICH TO DRAW,
AT LEAST IN PART, THE ITALIAN FAC CONTRIBUTION; ITALIAN
CONTRIBUTION, UNLIKE SOME OTHER EC MEMBER STATES, MUST
BE 100 PERCENT CASH. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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